GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:59
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
OCCUPATION OF STRATEGIC POST BY PAK TROOPS
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pak troops had occupied some strategic posts on the Indian side of the Line of Control in Kashmir in July, 2002;

(b) if so, the circumstances under which Pakistani troops intruded;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the loss of life and property suffered by the Army as well as Pakistani side?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59 FOR 21.11.2002

Pakistan troops had not occupied any strategic post on the Indian side of Line of Control during July 2002.However, in the last week of July 2002, there was a minor Pakistan intrusion, approximately 800 meters on our side of Line of Control in the area of Point 3260, a relatively low feature having little tactical significance. The intrusion was evicted by appropriate action of ground troops and Air Force on 2nd August, 2002.

Point 3260 is not considered tactically important and viable for physical occupation by our own troops. Being in close proximity of the Line of Control and the area not being physically occupied, Pakistan troops had intruded into this area.However, since the area is regularly patrolled by our own troops, they observed presence of some Pakistan troops in the area of Point 3260 on 26th July 2002, and suitable action was taken by the Indian troops to evict the intrusion and to restore the sanctity of the Line of Control.As such, no inquiry was ordered into the incident.

No loss of life was suffered by Indian troops during conduct of this operation. Casualties to Pakistan troops are not known.